

All Around Worker

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Monday, 19 January 2009 17:00 - Last Updated Wednesday, 18 March 2009 14:44

American Fork- If you mention the name Connie Simms anywhere on the campus of Utah State Development Center (USDC), you will find she is well known. Simms has worked at USDC for over nine years which is not unusual, except for the fact that she began as a food service worker, worked her way up to switchboard operator and is now a Licensed Social Worker for many individuals in the USDC facility.



"Connie has been able to make significant progress with the female consumers she serves," states Karen Clarke, USDC Director, "She is very invested in the welfare and stability of those she supports and strives to assist people with disabilities to become independent and self reliant."

Simms is a competent and, willing employee in all areas. Not only does she assist clients, but she has been an active team member providing training to all of USDC on such issues as guardianship, active treatment, communication with people with disabilities and cognitive issues revolving around this unique population. Simms has helped establish policies and researched out many difficult answers pertaining to legal and regulatory issues involving the mentally retarded. She has been known for making long lasting meaningful changes in the lives of the individuals at USDC.

Simms was recently selected as employee of the month for October, 2008 at USDC. Her forward creative thinking has earned the respect of the individuals and staff here at USDC. "She is a very competent clinician," states Clarke, "she is definitely an asset to the Developmental Center."